

GM560

Measure Title: Submitting for consideration and confirmation to the Board of Physical Therapy, Gubernatorial Nominee, RACHELLE IOPA, for a term to expire 6-30-2019.

Report Title: Board of Physical Therapy

Description:

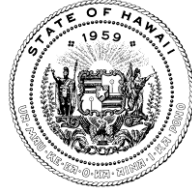
Companion:

Package:

Current Referral: CPN

Introducer(s):

<u>Sort by Date</u>		Status Text
4/1/2015	S	Received.
4/1/2015	S	Referred to CPN.
4/2/2015	S	The committee(s) on CPN has scheduled a public hearing on 04-17-15 8:30AM in conference room 229.



DAVID Y. IGE
GOVERNOR

SHAN S. TSUTSUI
LT. GOVERNOR

STATE OF HAWAII
OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS

335 MERCHANT STREET, ROOM 310

P.O. Box 541

HONOLULU, HAWAII 96809

Phone Number: 586-2850

Fax Number: 586-2856

www.hawaii.gov/dcca

CATHERINE P. AWAKUNI COLÓN
DIRECTOR

JO ANN M. UCHIDA TAKEUCHI
DEPUTY DIRECTOR

TO THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON
COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

TWENTY-EIGHTH LEGISLATURE
Regular Session of 2015

Friday, April 17, 2015
8:30 a.m.

TESTIMONY ON GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE NO. 560.

TO THE HONORABLE ROSALYN H. BAKER, CHAIR,
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE:

My name is Alan Taniguchi and I am the Executive Officer for the Hawaii Board of Physical Therapy, Department of Commerce and Consumer Affairs ("Department"). The Department thanks you for the opportunity to testify on Governor's Message No. 560, regarding the **reappointment** of Rachelle Iopa to the Hawaii Board of Physical Therapy ("Board"). The Department supports the confirmation of Ms. Iopa's reappointment to the Board.

Ms. Iopa has served on the Board since July 1, 2011. Ms. Iopa received her Doctor of Physical Therapy degree from the University of Southern California. She is currently the President and founder of Kaimuki Care and she specializes in shoulder

and neck injuries, has experience in vestibular rehabilitation, and is skilled at treating patients with complicated disorders.

Ms. Iopa has attended 19 out of 20 Board meetings. Through her professional experience, she has been exposed to many critical components in the field of physical therapy and allows her to provide invaluable and meaningful contributions during Board meetings. The Board's mission to effectively oversee physical therapy in Hawaii will continue with her reappointment.

The Department supports the confirmation of Ms. Iopa to the Hawaii Board of Physical Therapy, and thanks you for the opportunity to provide testimony.

April 10, 2015

Dear Senate Committee on Commerce and Consumer Protection,

I am writing in support of my nomination to the Board of Physical Therapy (hereinafter referred to as "Board") in the state of Hawaii.

As a current member of the Board, I would like to continue making strides in helping advance the profession of physical therapy within the state of Hawaii, and keeping the public safe and protected. During my tenure, I was involved in implementing continuing competency for state licensed physical therapists (PT), and licensing physical therapy assistants (PTA). These issues helped keep the State current with what is being regulated around the Nation, as Hawaii was the last state to license PTAs and the 49th state to implement continuing competence for our PTs.

Also, through my professional experience, I have been fortunate to interact, collaborate and be exposed to many of the critical components in the field of Physical Therapy. Having both worked for and currently own and operate a physical therapy clinic in Hawaii, I have gained first-hand experience of the opportunities and challenges facing the profession locally. By being a member of the Board, I will have a part in being able to address these challenges and make the necessary changes to further our profession of physical therapy in a positive manner. Lastly, having served as an educator through hosting clinical internships for students across the country and locally, I continue to help shape the future of our profession and assure that our community will be well served moving forward. I believe this combination of skills and expertise

would serve the Board well.

A major role and responsibility of the Board is to ensure everyone in our state receives appropriate physical therapy care by a licensed and competent physical therapist. This is done by reviewing, regulating and approving licensed applicants and also, investigating and providing resolution to any complaints made against physical therapists. My experience as a small business owner and operator, I am required to evaluate potential professionals in a similar fashion. I have been doing this for the past ten years for my practice as well as other clinics. This experience will allow me to assist in decision making for the Board.

By continuing as a member of the Board, I will be able to further give back to my profession in a meaningful way. Thank you for your considerations.

Sincerely,

Rachelle Iopa